Timeline for Implementation of the 8-Hour Ozone Standard*

July 1997 EPA issues revised 8-hour health-based standard for ozone. The new standard is

 $0.08\ ppm$ averaged over 8-hours. The pre-1997 ozone standard is $0.12\ ppm$

averaged over 1-hour.

March/July 2000 EPA issues guidance documents "Boundary Guidance on Air Quality

Designations for the 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards" and "Guidance on 8-Hour Ozone Designations for Indian Tribes" (See EPA websites: http://www.epa.gov/ttn/naaqs/ozone/ozonetech/#newstd and

http://www.epa.gov/airprogm/oar/tribal/tribe8hd.html).

February 2001 U.S. Supreme Court affirms EPA's new ozone national ambient air quality

standards. (Whitman v. American Trucking Associations, U.S. Supreme Court,

Nos. 99-1257, 99-1426, February 27, 2001)

March/April 2002 EPA issues Draft Issue Discussion Papers and holds public meetings in early

2002 to gather input on how best to proceed with the implementation of the new

standard.

September 2002 EPA introduces revised Draft Issue Discussion Papers regarding the transition

to the 8-hour ozone standard. (See EPA website:

http://www.epa.gov/ttn/naaqs/ozone/o3imp8hr/issuepapers.html). The draft papers address various aspects related to implementation of the 8-hour standard including area classifications, revocation of the 1-hour standard, and attainment

dates for the new standard.

November 2002 As part of a settlement of a lawsuit by environmental groups, EPA and the

environmental groups agree to a schedule for EPA to promulgate air quality designations for the 8-hour ozone standard by April 15, 2004 (See 67 FR 70070, November 20, 2002). A November 14, 2002, EPA memorandum regarding 8-hour ozone designations requests that states submit recommendations for designating attainment/unclassifiable and nonattainment areas of the state by

April 15, 2003. EPA later extends the date to July 15, 2003.

February 2003 In a February 27, 2003, memorandum regarding 8-hour ozone designations EPA

extends the date for states to submit recommendations for designating areas of

the state from April 15, 2003, to July 15, 2003 (See EPA website

http://www.epa.gov/ttn/naaqs/ozone/ozonetech/).

June 2003 EPA proposes rule for implementing the 8-hour standard (68 FR 32802, June 2,

2003, See EPA website:

http://www.epa.gov/ttn/naaqs/ozone/o3imp8hr/proprule.html). The proposed rule contains background discussion and addresses various options related to implementation of the 8-hour standard including options for area classifications, revocation of the 1-hour standard, and attainment dates for the new standard.

July 15, 2003

Deadline for states to submit recommendations for air quality area designations based on area ozone levels. Arizona submits boundary recommendations on July 15, 2003, and technical support documentation for the recommendations on July 22, 2003.

August 2003

EPA issues draft regulatory text to accompany the June 2, 2003, proposed implementation rule (68 FR 46536, August 6, 2003, See EPA website: http://www.epa.gov/ttn/naaqs/ozone/o3imp8hr/proprule.html).

October 2003

EPA reopens the comment period on the proposed June 2, 2003, implementation rule to solicit additional comment on alternative approaches for classifying nonattainment areas (68 FR 60054, October 21, 2003, See EPA website: http://www.epa.gov/ttn/naags/ozone/o3imp8hr/proprule.html).

December 2003

EPA responds to state air quality area designation recommendations. In a December 3, 2003, response EPA largely supports Arizona's recommendations but indicates an intention to make certain modifications to the Phoenix area nonattainment boundary recommendation (See EPA website: http://www.epa.gov/oar/oaqps/glo/designations/state.htm).

April 15, 2004

EPA signs final area designations for the 8-hour standard. The designations are effective June 15, 2004 (69 FR 23858, April 30, 2004, See EPA website: http://www.epa.gov/oar/oaqps/glo/designations/). The Phoenix area is designated as a "basic" nonattainment area covered under title 1, part D, subpart 1 of the Clean Air Act. The requirements of subpart 1 allow areas more flexibility in designing and adopting control strategies to reach attainment.

EPA also issues Phase 1 of the final rule for implementing the 8-hour standard (69 FR 23951, April 30, 2004, See EPA website: http://www.epa.gov/oar/oaqps/glo/designations/). The rule addresses 8-hour implementation program requirements including revocation of the 1-hour ozone standard, anti-backsliding provisions to maintain air quality improvements made during implementation of the 1-hour standard, and attainment dates.

Mid-2004

EPA issues Phase 2 of the 8-hour ozone implementation rule addressing reasonable further progress, attainment demonstrations, and reasonably available control measures and technology.

2007

Phoenix 8-hour nonattainment area state implementation plan (SIP) including any required control strategies must be submitted to EPA.

June 15, 2009

Phoenix nonattainment area must attain the 8-hour ozone standard (may be extended up to 2014 under certain circumstances).

^{*} Tentative dates are shown in italics